Holography in three dimensions

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String Theory in Greater Tokyo Tokyo, January 2015



Outline

Motivations

Holography basics

Applications

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Quantum gravity

Address conceptual issues of quantum gravity





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- Address conceptual issues of quantum gravity
- Black holes (thermodynamics, evaporation, information loss, microstate counting, entanglement entropy, firewalls, ...)



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- ▶ String theory (is it the right theory? can there be any alternative? ...)



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 - Holographic principle realized in Nature? (yes/no)



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- Holographic principle realized in Nature? (yes/no)
- Quantum gravity via AdS/CFT? (define quantum gravity in AdS by constructing/postulating dual CFT)
- How general is holography? (non-unitary holography, higher spin holography, flat space holography, non-AdS holography, ...)



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- How general is holography? (non-unitary holography, higher spin holography, flat space holography, non-AdS holography, ...)
- Applications
 - Gauge gravity correspondence (plasmas, condensed matter, ...)



Daniel Grumiller — Holography in three dimensions

Motivations

Specific motivation for 3D

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Address these issues in 3D!



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Interesting dichotomy:

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This talk:

- Remain agnostic about dichotomy
- Focus on generic features of dual field theories that do not require string theory embedding

$\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Gravity in 3D} \\ \mbox{AdS}_3 \mbox{ gravity} \end{array}$

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Interesting generic constraints from CFT₂! e.g. Hellerman '09, Hartman, Keller, Stoica '14

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Caveat: while there are many string compactifications with AdS_3 factor, applying holography just to AdS_3 factor does not capture everything!

Holographic algorithm from gravity point of view

Universal recipe:

1. Identify bulk theory and variational principle

Example: bulk theory = EH

$$I \sim \int \mathrm{d}^3 x \sqrt{|g|} \left(R + 2/\ell^2 \right)$$

use Dirichlet boundary value problem (keep fixed δg at boundary)

Holographic algorithm from gravity point of view

Universal recipe:

- $1. \ \mbox{Identify bulk theory and variational principle}$
- 2. Fix background and impose suitable boundary conditions

Example: asymptotically AdS background with Brown–Henneaux boundary conditions

$$g \sim \begin{pmatrix} g_{++} = \mathcal{O}(1) & g_{+-} = e^{2\rho/\ell} + \mathcal{O}(1) & g_{+\rho} = \mathcal{O}(e^{-2\rho/\ell}) \\ g_{--} = \mathcal{O}(1) & g_{-\rho} = \mathcal{O}(e^{-2\rho/\ell}) \\ g_{\rho\rho} = 1 + \mathcal{O}(e^{-2\rho/\ell}) \end{pmatrix}$$
Universal recipe:

- $1. \ \mbox{Identify bulk theory and variational principle}$
- 2. Fix background and impose suitable boundary conditions
- 3. Perform canonical analysis and check consistency of bc's
 - Find and classify all constraints
 - Construct canonical gauge generators
 - Add boundary terms and get (variation of) canonical charges
 - Check integrability of canonical charges
 - Check finiteness of canonical charges
 - Check conservation (in time) of canonical charges
 - Calculate Dirac bracket algebra of canonical charges

Universal recipe:

- $1. \ \mbox{Identify bulk theory and variational principle}$
- 2. Fix background and impose suitable boundary conditions
- 3. Perform canonical analysis and check consistency of bc's
- 4. Derive (classical) asymptotic symmetry algebra and central charges

Example:

with

$$i\{L_n, L_m\}_{D.b.} = (n-m)L_{n+m} + \frac{c}{12}(n^3 - n)\delta_{n+m,0}$$

 $c = \frac{3\ell}{2G}$

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Trivial example:

$$i\{\,,\,\}_{D.b.} \to [\,,\,]$$

Less trivial example: Polyakov Bershadsky algebra in spin-3 gravity (finite quantum shifts of structure functions at finite central charge c, e.g. $c \to c+22/5)$

Universal recipe:

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- 6. Study unitary representations of quantum ASA

Example: unitary highest weight representations of Virasoro algebra

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Example: it must be a CFT with central charge $c = \frac{3\ell}{2G}$

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- 8. If unhappy with result go back to previous items and modify

Many examples!

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In this talk: Apply algorithm above to 3D (higher spin) gravity in Chern–Simons formulation

Bulk theory and variational principle

Chern–Simons theory with some gauge algebra that contains either $sl(2)\times sl(2)$ or isl(2)

$$I = \frac{k}{4\pi} \int_{\mathcal{M}} \operatorname{Tr}(A \wedge dA + \frac{2}{3}A \wedge A \wedge A) + B[A]$$

with boundary term ${\cal B}[{\cal A}]=0$ or

$$B[A] = \frac{k}{4\pi} \int_{\partial \mathcal{M}} \operatorname{Tr}(A_+ \, \mathrm{d}x^+ \, A_- \, \mathrm{d}x^-)$$

Variational principle consistent for Dirichlet, Neumann or more general boundary conditions (assume topology of cylinder or torus).

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Field equations:

$$F = \mathrm{d}A + [A, A] = 0$$

A locally pure gauge \Rightarrow physics largely defined by boundary behavior!

Picturesque analogy: soap films



Both soap films and Chern–Simons theories have

- essentially no bulk dynamics
- highly non-trivial boundary dynamics
- most of the physics determined by boundary conditions
- esthetic appeal (at least for me)



Daniel Grumiller - Holography in three dimensions

Holography basics

 Einstein gravity in AdS₃ Brown, Henneaux '86 Bañados '99

- Einstein gravity in AdS₃
- Conformal gravity in AdS₃
 Afshar, Cvetkovic, Ertl, DG, Johansson '11

- Einstein gravity in AdS₃
- Conformal gravity in AdS₃
- Flat space Einstein gravity Barnich, Compere '06 Barnich, Gonzalez '13

- Einstein gravity in AdS₃
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- Einstein gravity in AdS₃
- Conformal gravity in AdS₃
- Flat space Einstein gravity
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- Higher spin gravity in AdS₃ Henneaux, Rey '10 Campoleoni, Fredenhagen, Pfenninger, Theisen '10

- Einstein gravity in AdS₃
- Conformal gravity in AdS₃
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- Higher spin gravity in AdS₃
- Non-AdS higher spin gravity Gary, DG, Rashkov '12 Afshar, Gary, DG, Rashkov, Riegler '12

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- Conformal gravity in AdS₃
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- Lobachevsky holography Bertin, Ertl, Ghorbani, DG, Johansson, Vassilevich '12 Afshar, Gary, DG, Rashkov, Riegler '12

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- ... and many more (Schrödinger, warped AdS, more general backgrounds with anisotropic scale invariance, less symmetric asymptotic backgrounds, to be discovered)

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Background and fluctuations

Take suitable group element b (often: $b=e^{\rho L_0})$ and make Ansatz for connection

$$A = b^{-1} \left(d + \hat{a}^{(0)} + a^{(0)} + a^{(1)} \right) b$$

- $\hat{a}^{(0)} \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$: determines asymptotic background
- ▶ $a^{(0)} \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$: determines state-dependent fluctuations
- $a^{(1)} \sim o(1)$: sub-leading fluctuations

Boundary-condition preserving gauge transformations generated by $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}$

$$\epsilon = b^{-1} \left(\epsilon^{(0)} + \epsilon^{(1)} \right) b$$

with $\epsilon^{(0)} \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$ (subject to constraints) and $\epsilon^{(1)} \sim o(1)$ Metric is then determined from

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Tr} \left[A^e_{\mu} A^e_{\nu} \right]$$

where A^e is a suitable projection of A identified with the (zu-)vielbein

Cartoon of AdS₃: Asymptotic AdS background:

$$ds^2 \sim d\rho^2 + e^{2\rho} 2 dx^+ dx^-$$

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Connection decomposed into two sl(2) parts, $A = b^{-1}(d + \hat{a}^{(0)} + a^{(0)})b$ and similarly for \bar{A} :



Neglect trivial pure gauge contribution from $a^{(1)}$

Cartoon of AdS₃: Asymptotic AdS background:



 $\mathrm{d}s^2 \sim \mathrm{d}\rho^2 + e^{2\rho} \, 2 \, \mathrm{d}x^+ \, \mathrm{d}x^-$

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$$\begin{aligned} \hat{a}^{(0)}_{\rho} &= 0 \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad \hat{A}_{\rho} &= L_0 \\ \hat{a}^{(0)}_{+} &= L_1 \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad \hat{A}_{+} &= e^{\rho} L_1 \\ \hat{a}^{(0)}_{-} &= 0 \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad \hat{A}_{-} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

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Connection decomposed into two sl(2) parts, $A = b^{-1}(d + \hat{a}^{(0)} + a^{(0)})b$ and similarly for \bar{A} : $\hat{a}^{(0)}_{\rho} = 0 \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad \hat{A}_{\rho} = L_{0}$ $\hat{a}^{(0)}_{+} = L_{1} \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad \hat{A}_{+} = e^{\rho}L_{1}$ $\hat{a}^{(0)}_{+} = 0 \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad \hat{A}_{-} = 0$

State-dependent contribution $A = \hat{A} + \Delta A$:

$$a_{+}^{(0)} = \mathcal{L}(x^{+}) L_{-1} \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad \Delta A_{+} = e^{-\rho} \mathcal{L}(x^{+}) L_{-1}$$

Metric:

$$g_{\mu\nu} = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Tr} \left[(A_{\mu} - \bar{A}_{\mu})(A_{\nu} - \bar{A}_{\nu}) \right]$$

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Canonical analysis and boundary charges

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Background independent result:

$$\delta Q[\epsilon] = \frac{k}{2\pi} \oint \operatorname{Tr}\left(\epsilon^{(0)} \,\delta a_{\varphi}^{(0)} \,\mathrm{d}\varphi\right)$$

- Manifestly finite! $(|\delta Q| < \infty)$
- Non-trivial? (δQ state-dependent?)
- Integrable? ($\delta Q \rightarrow Q$?)
- Conserved? ($\partial_t Q = 0$?)

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If any of these is answered with 'no' then back to square one in algorithm!

Example: AdS holography in Einstein gravity Consider again only the A-sector (\overline{A} -sector is analogous)

Split gauge parameter into components:

$$\epsilon^{(0)} = \epsilon_1 L_1 + \epsilon_0 L_0 + \epsilon_{-1} L_{-1}$$

Solve constraint that local gauge trafos generated by $\epsilon^{(0)}$ preserve boundary conditions

$$\partial_{\mu} \epsilon^{(0) a} + f^{a}{}_{bc} \left(\hat{a}^{(0)}_{\mu} + a^{(0)}_{\mu} \right)^{b} \epsilon^{(0) c} = \mathcal{O}(a^{(0)}_{\mu})^{a}$$

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Result for components of $\epsilon^{(0)}$:

$$\epsilon_1 = \epsilon(x^+)$$
 $\epsilon_0 = \epsilon'(x^+)$ $\epsilon_{-1} = \epsilon''(x^+) + \mathcal{L}(x^+)\epsilon(x^+)$

Canonical charges:

$$Q[\epsilon^{(0)}] = \frac{k}{2\pi} \oint \mathrm{d}\varphi \,\mathcal{L}(x^+)\epsilon(x^+)$$

Fourier modes:

$$\mathcal{L}(x^+) \sim \sum_n L_n e^{inx^+}$$

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Classical asymptotic symmetry algebra

Dirac bracket algebra of canonical boundary charges:

$$\{Q[\epsilon_1], Q[\epsilon_2]\} = \delta_{\epsilon_2} Q[\epsilon_1]$$

- Either evaluate left hand side directly (Dirac brackets)
- Or evaluate right hand side (usually easier)

Exactly like in seminal Brown-Henneaux work!

Variation of state-dependent function:

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Alternatively: Dirac bracket algebra of canonical boundary charges:

$$\{\mathcal{L}(x^+), \mathcal{L}(\bar{x}^+)\} = \mathcal{L}'\delta(x^+ - \bar{x}^+) + 2\mathcal{L}\delta'(x^+ - \bar{x}^+) + \frac{k}{2\pi}\delta'''(x^+ - \bar{x}^+)$$

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 \blacktriangleright Converting $i\{\,,\,\}\rightarrow[\,,\,]$ and introducing Fourier modes yields

$$[L_n, L_m] = (n-m) L_{n+m} + \frac{c}{12} (n^3 - n) \delta_{n+m,0}$$

Again, the bar-sector is completely analogous

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Quantum violations of Jacobi-identities possible!

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Quantum violations of Jacobi-identities possible!

 Resolution: deform suitable structure constants/functions and demand validity of Jacobi identities

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 First example I am aware of: Henneaux–Rey 2010 in spin-3 AdS gravity

Quantum violations of Jacobi-identities possible!

- Resolution: deform suitable structure constants/functions and demand validity of Jacobi identities
- Result is quantum asymptotic symmetry algebra, valid also at finite Chern–Simons level k

Example: Lobachevsky holography in spin-3 gravity see Afshar, Gary, DG, Rashkov, Riegler '12 for details

Solving Jacobi identities yields (quantum) Polyakov-Bershadsky algebra

$$\begin{split} [J_n, J_m] &= \frac{2\hat{k} + 3}{3}n\delta_{n+m,0} \\ [J_n, \hat{L}_m] &= nJ_{n+m} \\ [J_n, \hat{G}_m^{\pm}] &= \pm G_{m+n}^{\pm} \\ [\hat{L}_n, \hat{L}_m] &= (n-m)\hat{L}_{m+n} + \frac{\hat{c}}{12}n(n^2 - 1)\delta_{n+m,0} \\ [\hat{L}_n, \hat{G}_m^{\pm}] &= \left(\frac{n}{2} - m\right)\hat{G}_{n+m}^{\pm} \\ [\hat{G}_n^+, \hat{G}_m^-] &= -(\hat{k} + 3)\hat{L}_{m+n} + \frac{3}{2}(\hat{k} + 1)(n-m)J_{m+n} + 3\sum_{p\in\mathbb{Z}} : J_{m+n-p}J_p : \\ &+ \frac{(\hat{k} + 1)(2\hat{k} + 3)}{2}(n^2 - \frac{1}{4})\delta_{m+n,0} \\ \text{with central charge } \hat{c} &= -(2\hat{k} + 3)(3\hat{k} + 1)/(\hat{k} + 3) = -6\hat{k} + \mathcal{O}(1) \end{split}$$

Holographic algorithm from gravity point of view

- 1. Identify bulk theory and variational principle
- 2. Fix background and impose suitable boundary conditions
- 3. Perform canonical analysis and check consistency of bc's
- 4. Derive (classical) asymptotic symmetry algebra and central charges
- 5. Improve to quantum ASA
- 6. Study unitary representations of quantum ASA
- 7. Identify/constrain dual field theory

Unitary representations of quantum asymptotic symmetry algebra

Standard questions:

- Is current algebra level non-negative?
- Is central charge non-negative?
- Are there any negative norm states?
- Are there null states?

To be decided case-by-case!

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To be decided case-by-case!

Example: AdS holography in Einstein gravity

- ASA: two copies of Virasoro with central charge $c = \frac{3\ell}{2G}$
- Minimal requirement: $\ell/G \ge 0$
- Usual analysis of unitary representations of Virasoro

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ASA is 2d conformal algebra with central charges $c = \bar{c} = \frac{3\ell}{2G}$

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Key open issue at this stage:

Identify precisely dual CFT or show its (non-)existence

Outline

Motivations

Holography basics

Applications

Non-unitary holography

Quoted from workshop webpage "Bits, Branes, Black Holes - Black Holes and Information" (KITP Santa Barbara 2012):

1. How general is holography?

To what extent do (previous) lessons rely on the particular constructions used to date? Are they tied to stringy effects and to string theory in particular, or are they general lessons for quantum gravity?

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Specific question addressed here:

Does holography apply only to unitary theories?

Example: critical topologically massive gravity (review: DG, Riedler, Rosseel, Zojer '13)

Action (Deser, Jackiw, Templeton '82):

$$I_{\rm TMG} = \frac{1}{16\pi G} \int d^3x \sqrt{-g} \left[R + \frac{2}{\ell^2} + \frac{1}{2\mu} \varepsilon^{\lambda\mu\nu} \Gamma^{\rho}{}_{\lambda\sigma} \left(\partial_{\mu} \Gamma^{\sigma}{}_{\nu\rho} + \frac{2}{3} \Gamma^{\sigma}{}_{\mu\tau} \Gamma^{\tau}{}_{\nu\rho} \right) \right]$$

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• Critical tuning: $\mu \ell = 1$ (Li, Song, Strominger '08)

$$c = \frac{3\ell}{2G} \left(1 + \frac{1}{\mu\ell} \right) \qquad \bar{c} = \frac{3\ell}{2G} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\mu\ell} \right) = 0$$

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- Holography logically independent from unitarity

if holography is true \Rightarrow must work in flat space

Just take large AdS radius limit of 10^4 AdS/CFT papers?

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$$L_n = \mathcal{L}_n - \bar{\mathcal{L}}_{-n}$$
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- Example where it does not work at all: highest weight conditions!

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Not in general! Must (also) work intrinsically in flat space! Interesting example:

unitarity of flat space quantum gravity

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Flat space holography (Barnich et al, Bagchi et al, Strominger et al, ...)

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Many open issues in flat space holography!

Next few slides: mention a couple of recent results

Conformal Chern–Simons gra

$$I_{\text{CSG}} = \frac{k}{4\pi} \int \left(\Gamma \wedge d\Gamma + \frac{2}{3}\Gamma \wedge \Gamma \wedge \Gamma \right) + \text{flat space bc's}$$

Conformal Chern–Simons gravity at level $k=1\simeq$ chiral extremal CFT with central charge c=24

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Missing: full partition function on gravity side

$$Z(q) = J(q) = \frac{1}{q} + 196884 q + \mathcal{O}(q^2)$$

Using methods similar to CFT:



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with

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and

• ℓ_x : spatial distance

• ℓ_y : temporal distance

a: UV cutoff (lattice size)

Using methods similar to CFT:

$$S_{\rm EE}^{\rm GCFT} = \underbrace{\frac{c_L}{6} \ln \frac{\ell_x}{a}}_{\rm like \ CFT}$$

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- flat space Einstein gravity: $c_L = 0$, $c_M \neq 0$

Same results obtained holographically!

- Using methods similar to Ammon, Castro Iqbal '13, de Boer, Jottar '13, Castro, Detournay, Iqbal, Perlmutter '14
- ▶ geodesics ⇒ Wilson lines

Afshar, Bagchi, Fareghbal, DG, Rosseel '13, Gonzalez, Matulich, Pino, Troncoso '13

▶ AdS gravity in CS formulation: spin 2 → spin 3 \sim sl(2) → sl(3)

Afshar, Bagchi, Fareghbal, DG, Rosseel '13, Gonzalez, Matulich, Pino, Troncoso '13

AdS gravity in CS formulation: spin 2 → spin 3 ~ sl(2) → sl(3)
 Flat space: similar!

$$S_{\rm CS}^{\rm flat} = \frac{k}{4\pi} \int {\rm CS}(\mathcal{A})$$

with $\operatorname{isl}(3)$ connection ($e^a=\text{``zuvielbein''}$)

$$\mathcal{A} = e^a T_a + \omega^a J_a \qquad T_a = (M_n, V_m) \quad J_a = (L_n, U_m)$$

 $\mathsf{isl}(3)$ algebra (spin 3 extension of global part of $\mathsf{BMS}/\mathsf{GCA}$ algebra)

$$[L_n, L_m] = (n - m)L_{n+m}$$

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$$[L_n, U_m] = (2n - m)U_{n+m}$$

$$[M_n, U_m] = [L_n, V_m] = (2n - m)V_{n+m}$$

$$[U_n, U_m] = (n - m)(2n^2 + 2m^2 - nm - 8)L_{n+m}$$

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Same type of boundary conditions as for spin 2:

$$\mathcal{A}(r, t, \varphi) = b^{-1}(r) \left(d + a(t, \varphi) + o(1) \right) b(r)$$

Afshar, Bagchi, Fareghbal, DG, Rosseel '13, Gonzalez, Matulich, Pino, Troncoso '13

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Spin 3 charges:

$$Q[\varepsilon_M, \varepsilon_L, \varepsilon_V, \varepsilon_U] \sim \oint \left(\varepsilon_M(\varphi)M(\varphi) + \varepsilon_L(\varphi)L(\varphi) + \varepsilon_V(\varphi)V(\varphi) + \varepsilon_U(\varphi)U(\varphi)\right)$$

Asymptotic symmetry algebra at finite level k Afshar, Bagchi, Fareghbal, DG, Rosseel '13

 Do either Brown–Henneaux type of analysis or İnönü–Wigner contraction of two copies of quantum W₃-algebra

Asymptotic symmetry algebra at finite level k Afshar, Bagchi, Fareghbal, DG, Rosseel '13

- ▶ Do either Brown–Henneaux type of analysis or İnönü–Wigner contraction of two copies of quantum W₃-algebra
- ▶ Obtain new type of W-algebra as extension of BMS ("BMW")

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other commutators as in isl(3) with $n \in \mathbb{Z}$

Asymptotic symmetry algebra at finite level k Afshar, Bagchi, Fareghbal, DG, Rosseel '13

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Note quantum shift and poles in central terms!

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- Note quantum shift and poles in central terms!
- \blacktriangleright Analysis generalizes to flat space contractions of other W-algebras

Unitarity in flat space Unitarity leads to further contraction DG, Riegler, Rosseel '14

Facts:

• Unitarity in GCA requires $c_M = 0$ (see paper for caveats!)

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Higher spin states decouple and become null states!

1. NO-GO:

Generically (see paper) you can have only two out of three:

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Example:

Flat space chiral gravity Bagchi, Detournay, DG, 1208.1658

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Example:

Minimal model holography

Gaberdiel, Gopakumar, 1011.2986, 1207.6697

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Example:

Flat space higher spin gravity (Galilean W_3 algebra) Afshar, Bagchi, Fareghbal, DG and Rosseel, 1307.4768 Gonzalez, Matulich, Pino and Troncoso, 1307.5651
Unitarity in flat space Generic flat space *W*-algebras DG, Riegler, Rosseel '14

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2. YES-GO:

There is (at least) one counter-example, namely a Vasiliev-type of theory, where you can have all three properties!

Unitary, non-trivial flat space higher spin algebra exists! Vasiliev-type flat space chiral higher spin gravity?

Flat space W_∞ -algebra compatible with unitarity DG, Riegler, Rosseel '14

► We do not know if flat space chiral higher spin gravity exists...

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- If it exists, this must be its asymptotic symmetry algebra:

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where

$$c^i_{\mathcal{V}}(m) = \#(i, m) \times c$$
 and $c = -\bar{c}$

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- AdS parent theory: no trace anomaly, but gravitational anomaly (Like in conformal Chern–Simons gravity → Vasiliev type analogue?)

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Still missing: comprehensive family of simple models such that

- dual (conformal) field theory identified
- exists for $c \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$ (ultra-quantum limit)
- exists for $c \to \infty$ (semi-classical limit)
- $\ldots\,$ or prove that no such model $\exists,$ unless UV-completed to string theory!

Thanks for your attention!



Vladimir Bulatov, M.C.Escher Circle Limit III in a rectangle